

Serial No. 10/575,501
Art Unit: 2624

Docket No. PU040276
Customer No. 24498

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for reducing subjective artifacts in a video image, comprising the steps of:
 - receiving supplemental information that includes at least one parameter that specifies an attribute of comfort noise for addition to an image;
 - generating [the] temporally correlated noise [in accordance]; and
 - making a determination, in accordance with the at least one parameter, whether to add[ing] the temporally correlated noise, and if so, adding such noise to the image at a level in accordance with the at least one parameter, to substantially hide artifacts.
2. (original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of generating the temporally correlated noise by the steps of:
 - obtaining a block pixel average;
 - accessing a look-up table using the block pixel average and picture quantization parameters to obtain weights of temporal correlation factors for weighting the added noise.
3. (original) The method according to claim 2 wherein the step of accessing a look-up table further comprises the step of accessing a look-up table containing Gaussian random numbers.
4. (original) The method according to claim 2 wherein the step of adding temporally correlated noise includes the step of adding temporally correlated noise to one of luma or chroma pixels.
5. (original) The method according to claim 4 further comprising the step of adding temporally correlated noise includes adding noise to both luma and chroma pixels.
6. (Currently amended) Apparatus for reducing subjective artifacts in a video image, comprising:
 - means for receiving supplemental information that includes at least one parameter that specifies an attribute of comfort noise for addition to an image;
 - means for generating [the] temporally correlated noise [in accordance]; and

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means, responsive to the at least one parameter, for making a determination whether to add[ing] the temporally correlated noise, and if so for adding such noise to the image at a level in accordance with the at least one parameter, to substantially hide artifacts.

7. (original) The apparatus according to claim 6 further comprising:
means for obtaining a block pixel average;
means for accessing a look-up table using the block pixel average and picture quantization parameters to obtain weights of temporal correlation factors for weighting the added noise.
8. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim [6] 7 wherein the look up contains Gaussian random numbers.
9. (original) The apparatus according to claim 6 wherein the means for adding temporally correlated noise adds temporally correlated noise to one of luma or chroma pixels.
10. (original) The apparatus according to claim 9 wherein the means for adding temporally correlated noise adds temporally correlated noise to both luma and chroma pixels